(ICAR) have planned to undertake trials of MECH 915 Bt. cotton hybrid through its All India Coordinated Cotton Improvement Project, in nine locations this year.

Garbage Refinery

4718. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Japan has set up its first garbage refinery at Chiba, to process 300 Tons garbage a day;

(b) Whether the Japan Waste Management Association has confirmed the success of the pilot plant in refining treating household garbage;

(c) Whether the plant has been designed to gasify the waste matter and re-use it as a resource, unlike conventional incinerators; and

(d) Whether this technology was developed by Thermoselect a Swiss company; if so, whether India would seek assistance in setting up such plants in the country?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) It has been reported that a waste processing plant based on Thermoselect gasification technology at 'Kawasaki Steel's Chiba Steel Works in Japan has been completed. The plant comprises two units and each has a processing capacity of 150 tons as day. The facility at Chiba has been set up by Thermoselect, a Swiss company.

Environmental Clearance for Mumbai Trans Harbour Sea Link Project

4719. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal for environmental clearance and No Objection Certificates for Mumbai Trans Harbour Sea Link Project and Western Freeway Sea Link, from Worli to Nariman Point, during the last one year; and

(b) it is, Government's response thereto and the steps taken or proposed to be taken for early sanction to these projects?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal for environmental clearance of Western Freeway Sea Link, from Worli to Nariman Point, has been appraised and it has been decided to obtain comments of Ministry of Defence before taking a decision on this Project. Ministry of Defence has been addressed accordingly. As regards the proposal for environmental clearance of Mumbai Trans Harbour Sea Link Proejct, the information submitted by the project proponents was found to be deficient. Additional information/clarifications have been sought from the proponents.

Cultivation of Bt. Cotton

4720. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU):
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to popularize the use of Bt. Cotton;

(b) which varieties have been cleared for cultivation;

(c) the total area to be covered by its cultivation;

(d) whether Ministry of Health was consulted before taking decision for its cultivation; if so, the details thereof;

(e) the steps taken to ensure that the gains thereof reach the farmers in distress;

(f) whether farmers have to be educated and provided proper support required for its proper cultivation; if so, who would take the responsibility; and